

'MCA's decision on cabinet posts a collective one'
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The MCA's decision not to accept any post in the cabinet should the party's results in the next general election (GE) be poorer than that in the 2008 GE, was made after careful thought by the MCA presidential council, said party deputy president Liow Tiong Lai.

Liow said this was a collective decision which had received the support of party members across the country, adding that self-encouragement and self-improvement were the main features of this policy.

"The MCA presidential council has resolved that MCA will completely withdraw from government positions at all levels if our party fails to receive the mandate from the Chinese community in the next general election.

"This action will truly embody the spirit of democracy and shows full respect for the Chinese community's choice. This is a historic decision. It has nothing to do with so-called racist political relations," he said in a statement in Kuala Lumpur today.

On April 29, MCA president Dr Chua Soi Lek announced that the party might decline positions in the federal and state governments if its performance in the next general election is unsatisfactory.

Liow, who is also Health Minister, said he would like to question DAP's smear campaign which in the past had urged MCA to withdraw from the government.

"(But) right now, when MCA has taken this decision, DAP in return accuses our party of threatening the Chinese community. By DAP's own argument, they have exposed their opportunistic traits.

"The practitioners of real racism are evinced from DAP. They call themselves multiracial, but practise a racial slant in interpreting MCA's decision," said Liow.

In the last general election, MCA won 15 of the 40 parliamentary seats and 31 of the 90 state seats contested by the party.

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